



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/499,705	02/08/2000	Henry Chuang	LEE1P005	1643

25696 7590 05/28/2002

OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY
P. O. BOX 10356
PALO ALTO, CA 94303

EXAMINER

DINH, TUAN T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2827

DATE MAILED: 05/28/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/499,705

Applicant(s)

CHUANG ET AL

Examiner

Tuan T Dinh

Art Unit

2827

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 May 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6-9 and 11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6-9 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 08 May 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2827

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the after final amendment filed on May 8, 2002,
PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED.

The final rejection is mailed on December 27, 2001 is hereby withdrawn,
and a new ground rejection set forth below:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "the at least one slot" in line 2. There is
insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 11 recites the limitation "the at least one slot" in lines 2-3. There is
insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35
U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this
Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 2827

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

4. Claims 1-3, 6-9, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Leman (U. S. Patent 6,261,104).

Leman discloses as to claim 1 a motherboard assembly (chassis 12, column 3, line 13) comprising:

A raiser card (30a-figure 2, column 4, line 26) capable of being a motherboard complying with one of a FlexATX specification and a MicroATX specification (column 1, lines 48-50), it should be noted that Leman broadly discloses an ATX card (any type of ATX card); and

an expansion card (30b, column 4, line 27) detachably connected to said motherboard for providing at least one slot (32b, column 4, line 36),

wherein when said expansion board (30b) is connected to said motherboard, said motherboard and said expansion card are arranged in a coplanar fashion (see figures 2-4 and 6) so that said motherboard assembly complies with one of the MicroATX specification and an ATX specification when said motherboard complies with the fFlexATX specification, and complies with the ATX specification when said motherboard complies with the MicroATX specification.

Leman discloses as to claim 2 the motherboard assembly (12) wherein said motherboard (30a-figure 2, column 4, line 26), at first edge (31-figure 1,

Art Unit: 2827

column 3, line 30) thereof, is provided with a first connection device (32b-figures 1-2, column 3, line 32); and

said expansion board (30b), at a second edge thereof, is provided with a second connection device (32a-figure 2) for making connection thereof to the first connection device (32b).

Leman discloses as to claim 3 the motherboard assembly shown in figures 2-4, and 6 wherein when the expansion board is connected to the motherboard. The second edge is adjacent to the first edge.

As best understood to claim 6, Leman discloses a motherboard assembly (12) wherein said first connector device (32b) and second connection device (32a) comprise a first bus (connector 32b and 32a connect together, see figures 2-3, and 6); at least one slot of the expansion card (30b) comprises a slot (32b-figures 2-3) of a second bus (not shown).

Leman discloses as to claim 7 a motherboard assembly (12) comprising:

a motherboard (30a) having a FlexATX specification (column 1, lines 48-50);

said first expansion board (30b) being detachably connected to said motherboard (30a) having at least one first slot (32b-see figure 2), wherein when said first expansion board (30b) is connected to said motherboard (30a), said motherboard assembly has a MicroATX specification;

Art Unit: 2827

a second expansion boards (not shown);

Note: *regarding figures 2 and 3, a computer 10 (Leman) might disclose more than one connection cards (i.e. a third card or a forth card,...) connecting to a top connector 32b-figure 2 of an expansion card 30b, or 132b-figure 3 of expansion card 130b;*

said second expansion board (not shown) being detachably connected to said first expansion board (30b) having at least one second slot (not shown); and

wherein when the second expansion board is connected to the first expansion board and the first expansion board is connected to the motherboard at the same time arranging in a coplanar fashion (see figures 2-3), and said motherboard assembly has a ATX specification.

Leman discloses as to claim 8 the motherboard assembly (12) wherein the motherboard (30a), at a first edge (31) thereof, is provided with a first connection device (32b), and the first expansion board (30b), at a second edge thereof, is provided with a second connection device (32a) for making connection thereof to the first connection device, and

said first expansion board, at a third edge thereof, is provided with a third connection device (32b-figure 2) on a third edge thereof, and the second expansion board (not shown), at a fourth edge thereof, is provided with a fourth connection device for making connection thereof to the third connection device (not shown, see figures 2-3) (see note of claim 7).

Art Unit: 2827

Leman discloses as to claim 9 the motherboard assembly shown in figures 2-3 wherein when the first expansion board (30b) is connected to the motherboard (30a), the second edge is adjacent to the first edge (31), and wherein when the second expansion board is inherently connected to the first expansion board, the fourth edge is adjacent to the third edge (see note of claim 7).

As best understood to claim 11, Lemman discloses the motherboard assembly (12) shown in figures 2-3 wherein the first and second connection devices (32b, 32a) comprise a first bus, respectively.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 6-9, and 11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Reimer discloses related art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan T Dinh whose telephone number is 703-306-5856. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Talbott can be reached on 703-305-9883. The fax

Application Control Number: 09/499,705.

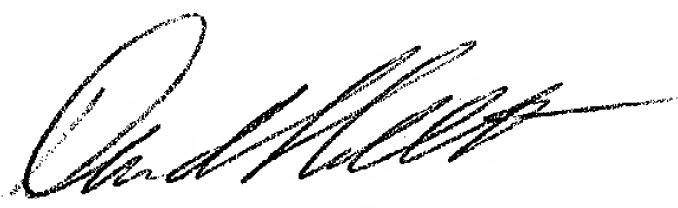
Page 7

Art Unit: 2827

phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-1341 for regular communications and 703-308-3431 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

TD
May 21, 2002.



DAVID L. TALBOTT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800